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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Thomas P. Hager and Richard N. Lehman

Serial No .:

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Filing Date:

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For:

COMPACT HYBRID FIBER REINFORCED RODS FOR

OPTICAL CABLE REINFORCEMENTS AND

METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

Examiner:

Jill M. Gray

Art Unit:

1774

Mail Stop: RCE (FEE) Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED NOVEMBER 5, 2003

Sir:

Responsive to the final Office Action mailed November 5, 2003, the Applicants submit this response to the issues raised therein.

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to Claims 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)

The Applicants respectfully request amendment of claims 1 and 6, and cancellation of claims 7 and 8, as provided below. In addition, the Applicants respectfully request addition of new claim 29 to the present application, as provided below.